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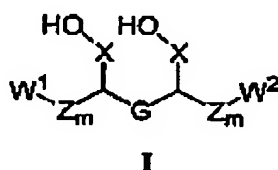
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A compound of the formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein

- (a) each occurrence of Z is independently CH₂, CH=CH, or phenyl, where each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 9, but when Z is phenyl then m is 1;
- (b) G is (CH₂)_x, where x is 1-7, CH₂CH=CHCH₂, CH=CH, CH₂-phenyl-CH₂, or phenyl;
- (c) W¹ and W² are independently L, V, C(R¹)(R²)-(CH₂)_c-C(R³)(R⁴)-(CH₂)_n-Y, or C(R¹)(R²)-(CH₂)_c-V where c is 1 or 2 and n is an integer ranging from 0 to 7;
- (d) each occurrence of R¹ or R² is independently (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl or when one or both of W¹ and W² is C(R¹)(R²)-(CH₂)_c-C(R³)(R⁴)-(CH₂)_n-Y, then R¹ and R² can both be H to form a methylene group; or R¹ and R² and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl group;
- (e) R³ is H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenyl, benzyl, Cl, Br, CN, NO₂, or CF₃;
- (f) R⁴ is OH, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenyl, benzyl, Cl, Br, CN, NO₂, or CF₃;

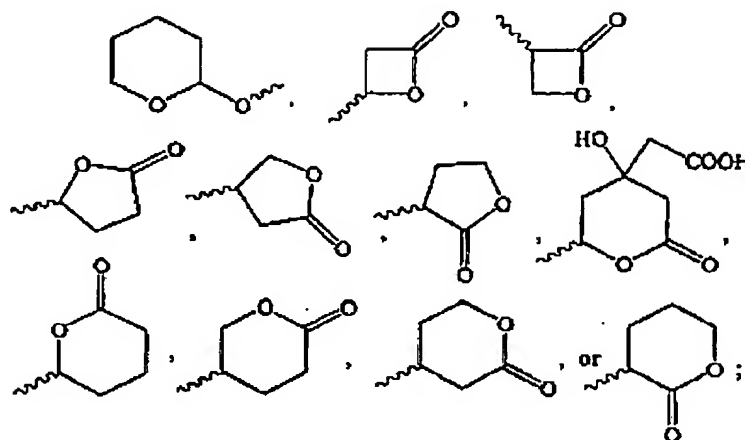
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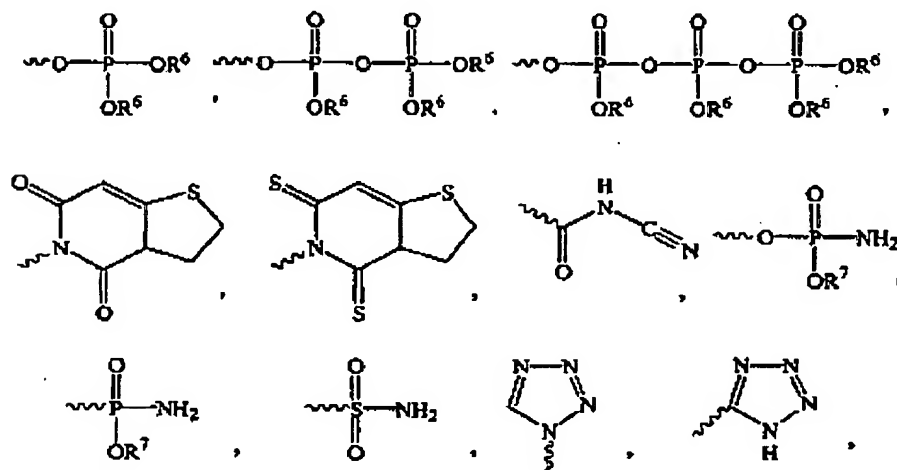
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(g) L is $C(R^1)(R^2)-(CH_2)_n-Y$, wherein n is an integer from 0 to 5;

(h) V is:



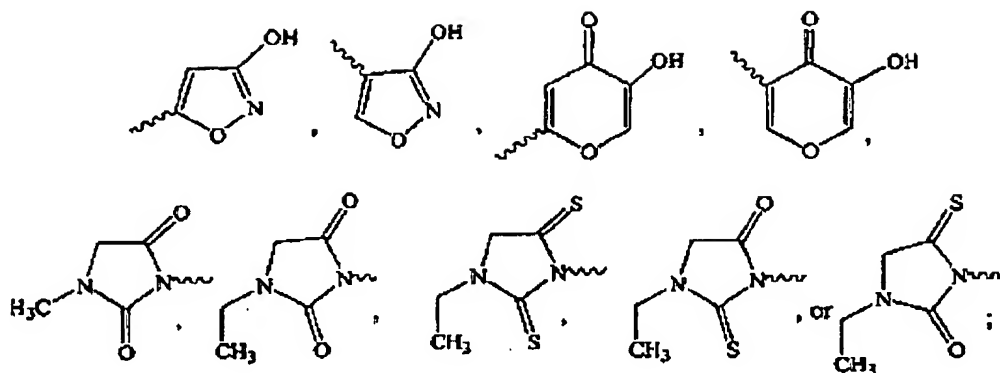
(i) each occurrence of Y is independently (C_1-C_6) alkyl, OH, COOH, COOR⁵, SO₃H,



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wherein:

(i) R^5 is (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(ii) each occurrence of R^6 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, or phenyl groups;

(iii) each occurrence of R^7 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl; and

(j) X is $(CH_2)_z$ or Ph, wherein z is an integer from 0 to 4.

Claim 2 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein G is $(CH_2)_2$.

Claim 3 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein each occurrence of Z_m is independently (CH_2) and m is 1-4.

Claim 4 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein each occurrence of W^1 and W^2 is independently L.

Claim 5 (original): The compound of claim 2, wherein L is $C(CH_3)_2-(CH_2)-OH$.

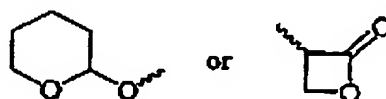
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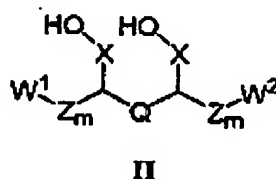
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Claim 6 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein each occurrence of W^1 and W^2 is independently v.

Claim 7 (original): The compound of claim 6, wherein V is



Claim 8 (currently amended): A compound of the formula II:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein:

- (a) each occurrence of Z is independently CH_2 or $CH=CH$, wherein each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 9;
- (b) Q is $(CH_2)_x$, $CH_2CH=CHCH_2$, or $CH=CH$, where x is 2, 3, or 4;
- (c) W^1 and W^2 are independently L, V, or $C(R^1)(R^2)-(CH_2)_c-V$, where c is 1 or 2;
- (d) each occurrence of R^1 and R^2 is independently (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, benzyl, or R^1 and R^2 and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a (C_3-C_7) cycloalkyl group;
- (e) L is $C(R^1)(R^2)-(CH_2)_n-Y$, where n is an integer ranging from 0 to 5;
- (f) V is:

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wherein:

(i) R^3 is (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(ii) each occurrence of R^4 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, or phenyl groups; and

(iii) each occurrence of R^5 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl; and

(h) X is $(CH_2)_z$ or Ph, wherein z is an integer from 0 to 4.

Claim 9 (original): The compound of claim 8, wherein each occurrence of W^1 and W^2 is independently L.

Claim 10 (original): The compound of claim 9, wherein L is $C(CH_3)_2-(CH_2)_n-Y$.

Claim 11 (original): The compound of claim 10, wherein each occurrence of Y is independently OH, $COOR^7$, or COOH.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The compound of claim 8, wherein Q is $CH=CH_2$.

Claim 13 (original): The compound of claim 8, wherein Z_m is CH_2 and m is 1 - 3.

Claim 14 (original): The compound of claim 8, wherein each of W^1 and W^2 is independently $C(R^1)(R^2)-(CH_2)-V$.

Claim 15 (original): The compound of claim 14, wherein R^1 and R^2 are each independently (C_1-C_6) alkyl.

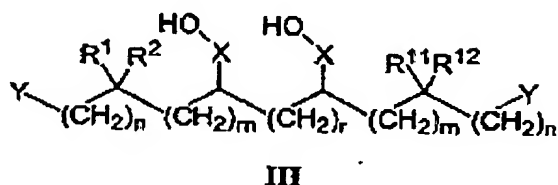
Claim 16 (original): The compound of claim 15, wherein R^1 and R^2 are each methyl.

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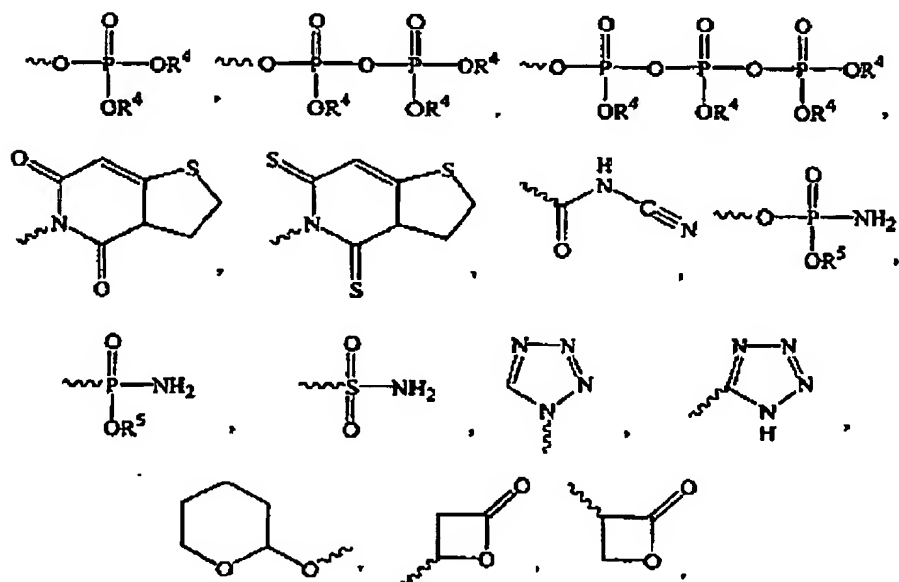
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Claim 17 (original): A compound of the formula III



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein:

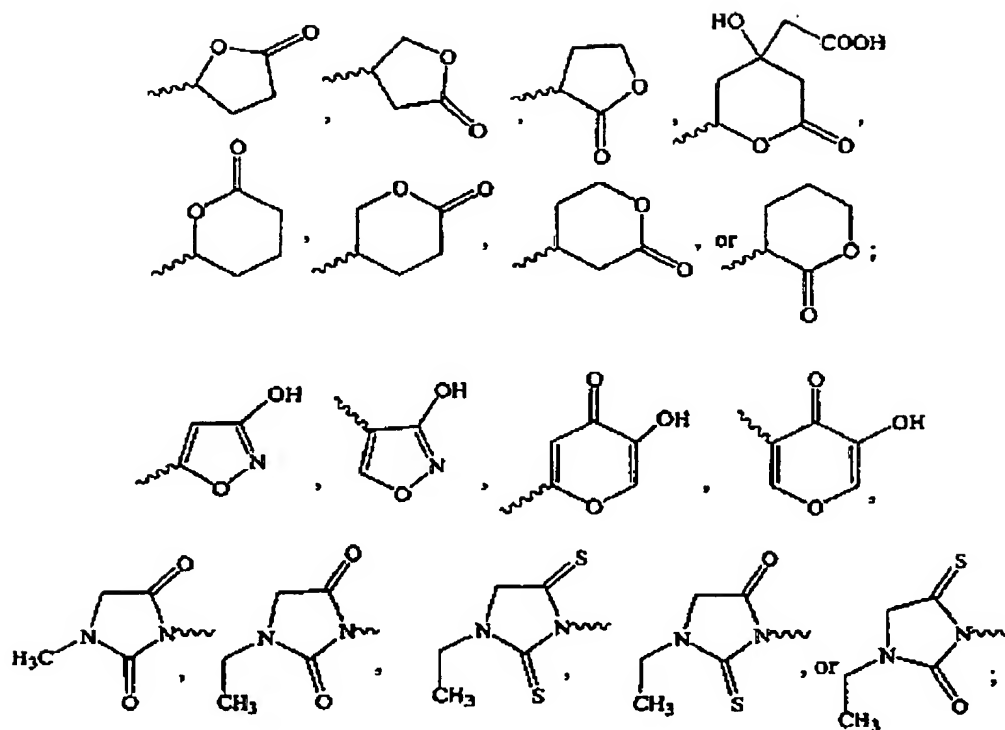
- (a) each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 9;
- (b) r is 2, 3, or 4;
- (c) each occurrence of n is independently an integer ranging from 0 to 7;
- (d) each occurrence of R^1 , R^2 , R^{11} , and R^{12} is independently (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, benzyl, or R^1 and R^2 and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a (C_3-C_7) cycloalkyl group, or R^{11} and R^{12} and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a (C_3-C_7) cycloalkyl group; and
- (e) each occurrence of Y is independently (C_1-C_6) alkyl, OH, COOH, COOR³, SO₃H,



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wherein:

- (i) R^3 is (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, or phenyl groups,
- (ii) each occurrence of R^4 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or phenyl groups;
- (iii) each occurrence of R^5 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl; and
- (f) X is $(CH_2)_z$ or Ph, wherein z is an integer from 0 to 4.

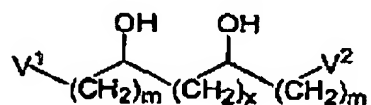
Claim 18 (original): The compound of claim 17, wherein each occurrence of Y^1 and Y^2 is independently OH, $COOR^3$, or COOH.

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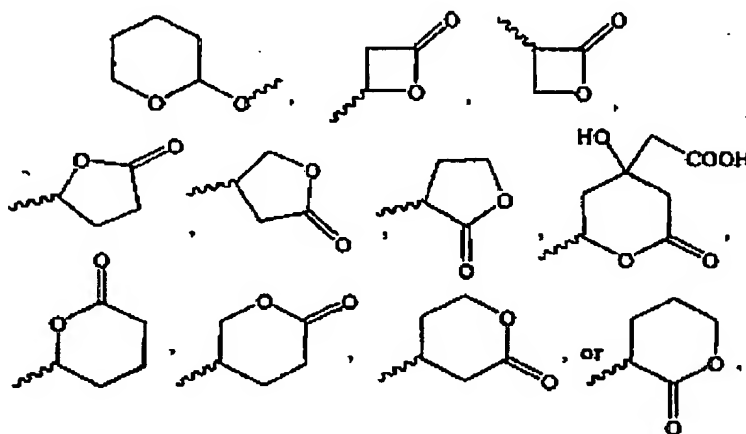
Claim 19 (original): A compound of the formula IV



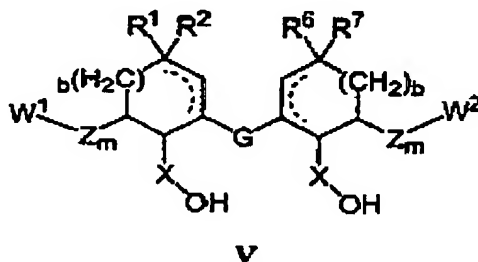
IV

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein:

- (a) each occurrence of m is an independent integer ranging from 1 to 9;
- (b) x is 2, 3, or 4;
- (c) each of V^1 and V^2 is independently:



Claim 20 (original): A compound of the formula V:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein:

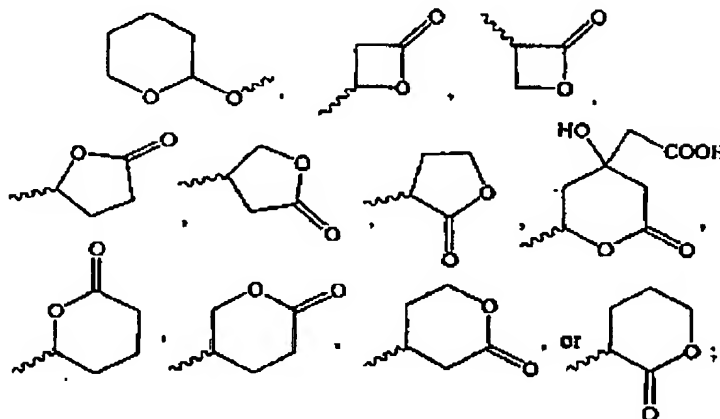
- (a) each occurrence of Z is independently CH₂, CH=CH, or phenyl, where each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 5, but when Z is phenyl then its associated m is 1;

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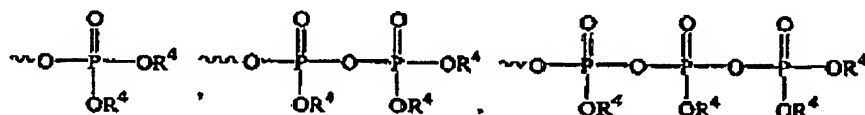
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- (b) G is $(CH_2)_x$, $CH_2CH=CHCH_2$, $CH=CH$, CH_2 -phenyl- CH_2 , or phenyl, where x is an integer ranging from 1 to 7;
- (c) W^1 and W^2 are independently $C(R^8)(R^9)-(CH_2)_n-Y$, where n is an integer ranging from 0 to 7;



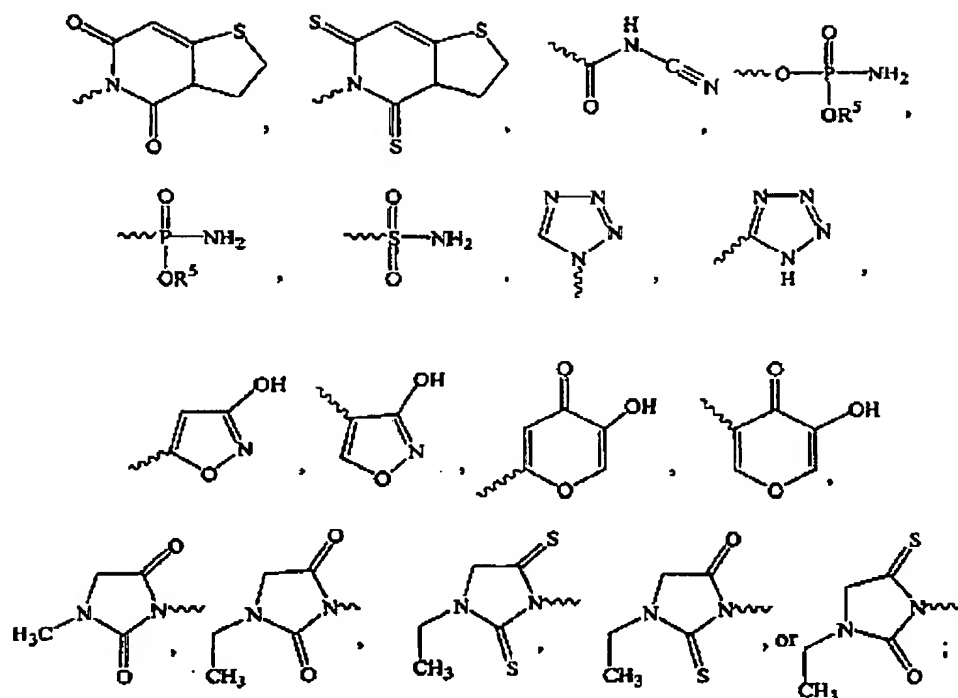
- (d) each occurrence of R^8 and R^9 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl or R^8 and R^9 can be taken together to form a carbonyl group;
- (e) each occurrence of R^1 and R^2 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl or R^1 and R^2 can be taken together to form a carbonyl group or R^1 and R^2 and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a (C_3-C_7) cycloalkyl group;
- (f) each occurrence of R^6 and R^7 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, or R^6 and R^7 can be taken together to form a carbonyl group or R^6 and R^7 and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a (C_3-C_7) cycloalkyl group;
- (g) Y is independently (C_1-C_6) alkyl, OH, COOH, $COOR^3$, SO_3H ,



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wherein:

- (i) R^3 is (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, or phenyl groups,
- (ii) each occurrence of R^4 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or phenyl groups;
- (iii) each occurrence of R^5 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl;
- (h) each occurrence of b is independently 0 or 1 or optionally the presence of one or more additional carbon-carbon bonds that when present complete one or more carbon-carbon double bonds; and
- (i) X is $(CH_2)_z$ or Ph, wherein z is an integer from 0 to 4.

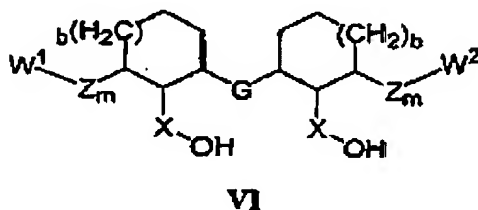
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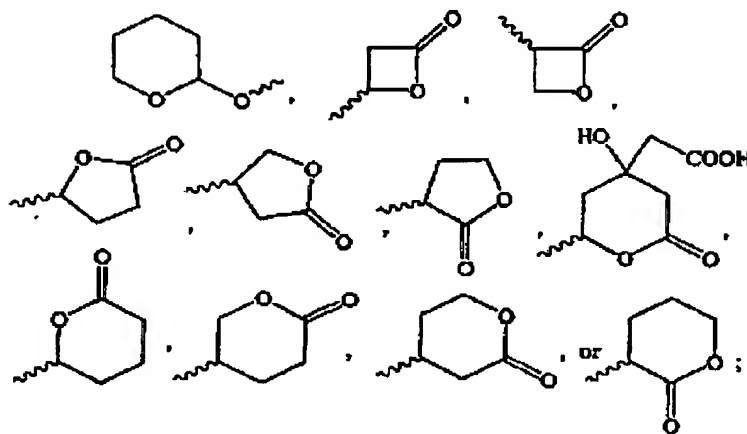
Claim 21 (original): The compound of claim 20, wherein each occurrence of W^1 and W^2 is an independent $C(R^1)(R^2)-(CH_2)_n-Y$ group and each occurrence of Y is independently OH , $COOR^3$, or $COOH$.

Claim 22 (original): A compound of the formula VI:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein

- (a) each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 5;
- (b) X is $(CH_2)_z$ or Ph , wherein z is an integer from 0 to 4;
- (c) W^1 and W^2 are independently $C(R^1)(R^2)-(CH_2)_n-Y$, where n is an integer ranging from 0 to 7;

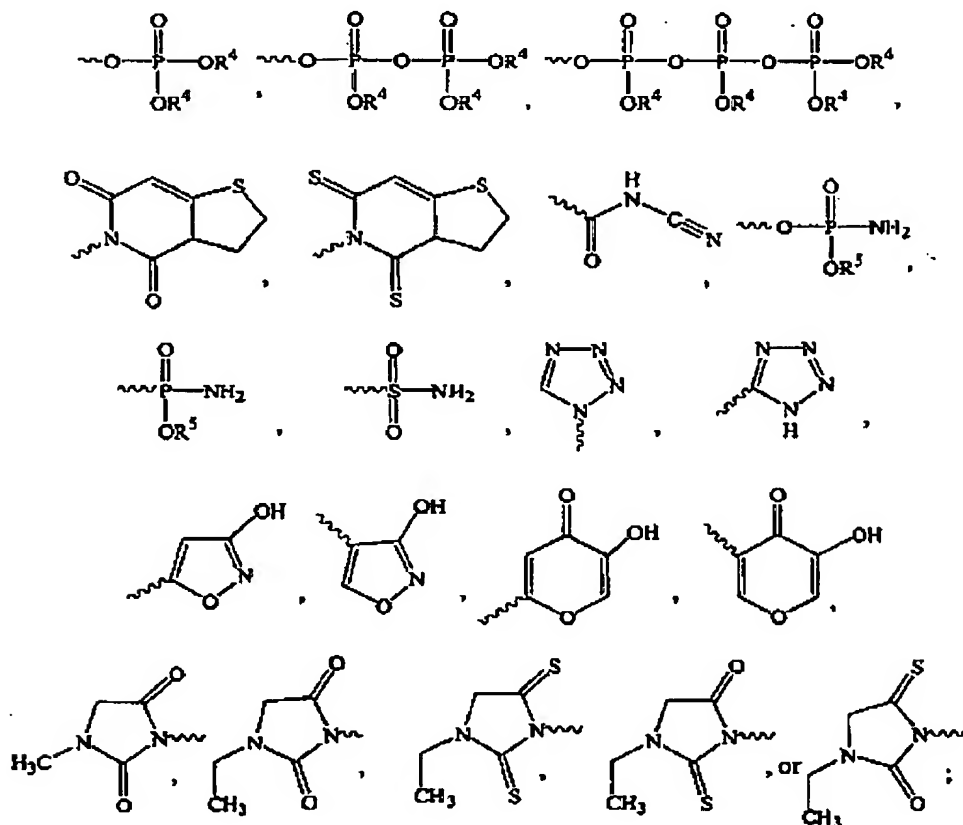


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- (d) each occurrence of R^1 or R^2 is independently (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, or R^1 and R^2 and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a (C_3-C_7) cycloalkyl group;
- (e) Y is (C_1-C_6) alkyl, $(CH_2)_nOH$, $(CH_2)_nCOOH$, $(CH_2)_nCOOR^3$, SO_3H ,



wherein:

- (i) R^3 is (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, or phenyl groups,
- (ii) each occurrence of R^4 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or phenyl groups,
- (iii) each occurrence of R^5 is independently H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6) alkynyl;

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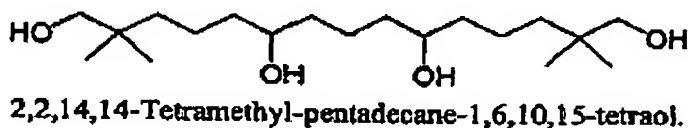
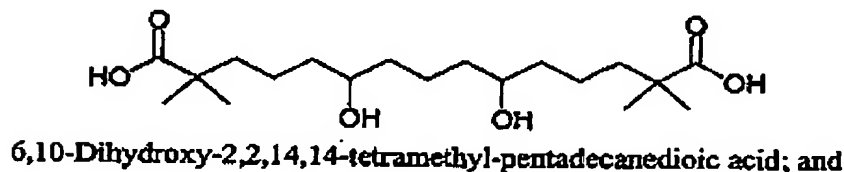
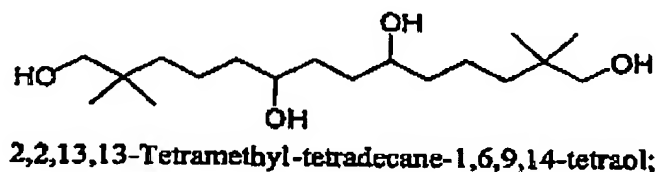
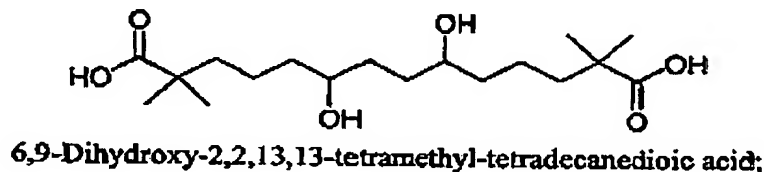
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- (f) each occurrence of **b** is independently 0 or 1; and
- (g) **X** is $(\text{CH}_2)_z$ or Ph , wherein z is an integer from 0 to 4.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The compound of claim 22, wherein each occurrence of **W1** and **W2** is independently $\text{C}(\text{R}^1)(\text{R}^2)-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{Y}$, ~~groups~~ and each occurrence of **Y** is independently OH , COOR^3 , or COOH .

Claim 24 (currently amended): A compound of structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, or solvate thereof.

Claim 25 (original): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, excipient, or diluent.

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Claim 26 (original): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24 and further comprising a second therapeutic agent.

Claim 27 (original): A method for treating or preventing aging, Alzheimer's Disease, cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetic nephropathy, diabetic retinopathy, a disorder of glucose metabolism, dyslipidemia, dyslipoproteinemia, hypertension, impotence, inflammation, insulin resistance, lipid elimination in bile, obesity, oxysterol elimination in bile, pancreatitis, pancreatitius, Parkinson's disease, a peroxisome proliferator activated receptor-associated disorder, phospholipid elimination in bile, renal disease, septicemia, Syndrome X, thrombotic disorder, modulating C reactive protein, or enhancing bile production in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 28 (original): A method for treating or preventing cardiovascular disease in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 29 (original): A method for treating or preventing a dyslipidemia in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically; or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 30 (original): A method for treating or preventing a dyslipoproteinemia in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 31 (original): A method for treating or preventing a disorder of glucose metabolism in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or

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prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 32 (original): A method for treating or preventing a Alzheimer's disease in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 33 (original): A method for treating or preventing Syndrome X in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 34 (original): A method for treating or preventing a septicemia in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 35 (original): A method for treating or preventing a thrombotic disorder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 36 (original): A method for treating or preventing a peroxisome proliferator activated receptor associated disorder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 37 (original): A method for treating or preventing obesity in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

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Claim 38 (original): A method for treating or preventing pancreatitis in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 39 (original): A method for treating or preventing hypertension in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 40 (original): A method for treating or preventing renal disease in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 41 (original): A method for treating or preventing cancer in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 42 (original): A method for treating or preventing inflammation in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 43 (original): A method for treating or preventing impotence in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 44 (original): A method for treating or preventing a neurodegenerative disease or disorder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

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Claim 45 (original): A method of inhibiting hepatic fatty acid synthesis in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 46 (original): A method of inhibiting sterol synthesis in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 47 (original): A method of treating or preventing metabolic syndrome disorders in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 48 (original): A method of treating or preventing a disease or disorder that is capable of being treated by increasing HDL levels, which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

Claim 49 (original): A method of treating or preventing a disease or disorder that is capable of being treated by lowering LDL levels, which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, or 24.

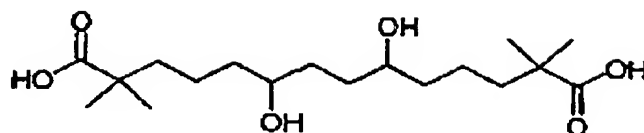
Claim 50 (original): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24, or 26 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, excipient, or diluent which is administered in combination with a statin.

Claim 51 (new): A compound according to claim 1 wherein said compound has the structure:

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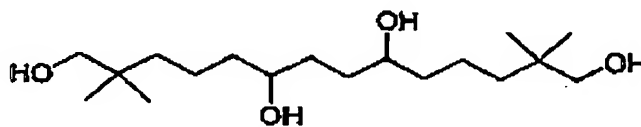
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**6,9-Dihydroxy-2,2,13,13-tetramethyl-tetradecanedioic acid;**

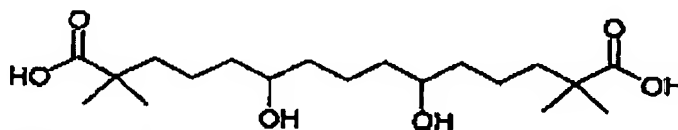
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, or solvate thereof.

Claim 52 (new): A compound according to claim 1 wherein said compound has the structure:

**2,2,13,13-Tetramethyl-tetradecane-1,6,9,14-tetraol;**

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, or solvate thereof.

Claim 53 (new): A compound according to claim 1 wherein said compound has the structure:

**6,10-Dihydroxy-2,2,14,14-tetramethyl-pentadecanedioic acid;**

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, or solvate thereof.

Claim 54 (new): A compound according to claim 1 wherein said compound has the structure:

**2,2,14,14-Tetramethyl-pentadecane-1,6,10,15-tetraol.;**

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, or solvate thereof.